

REMARKS

Allowance of this application is respectfully requested.

By way of the amendment instructions above, the objected to negative limitation regarding the conventional surface coat not containing silica has been deleted so as to render moot the rejection advanced against claims 1-8 under 35 USC §112, first paragraph.

Applicants do not concur in the Examiner's conclusion that the originally filed specification does not support the limitation removed by way of the amendment instructions above since the examples of the originally filed specification unequivocally disclose surface coats which do not contain silica. Thus, in Example 1, the top coat contains 85 parts of kaolin (see table at page 9). In Example 2 found in the table at page 13, the top coat contains calcium carbonate in combination or not with kaolin. In Example 3, the top coat also contains mainly kaolin.

Thus, that the top coat of the present invention does not contain silica is respectfully submitted to be fully and adequately disclosed. In the interest of advancing prosecution of this application to allowance, however, such objected-to terminology has simply been cancelled.

That the top coat of the present invention does not contain silica is also evident from the fact that the top coat is printed by "gravure or flexographic printing" instead of "ink jet printing". As was noted during prior prosecution, the ink jet printable top coats must necessarily include silica. Thus, it is absolutely essential for a paper top coat to include silica in order to be capable of being printed by ink-jet printing. To the contrary, silica is absent from the top coat of the present invention since it is printed by completely different art-recognized gravure or flexographic printing techniques.

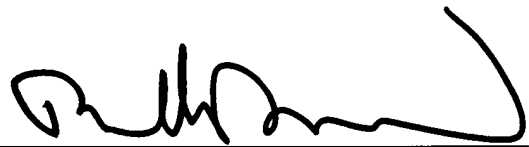
Pierre GIRARD et al
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Hence, in view of the above and the evidence of record, applicants suggest that all claims pending herein are in condition for prompt allowance and Official Notice to that effect is solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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